

***In the Claims***

Kindly amend claims 1 – 6, 15 and 26, and insert new claims 27 to 35 as shown in the following listing of the entire claims in the Application.

1. (Currently amended) A hybrid polypeptide comprising at least two different plant allergenic proteins characterized in that said hybrid polypeptide has reduced allergenic activity compared with the allergenic proteins from which it is derived and or fragments thereof, wherein each fragment consists of at least eight amino acids of the respective allergenic protein which in vivo induces protective antibody response.
2. (currently amended) ~~A hybrid~~ The hybrid polypeptide according to claim 1, wherein the plant hybrid polypeptide comprises at least one ~~complete~~ allergenic protein selected from the group consisting of timothy grass pollen allergens rPhl p 1, rPhl p 2, rPhl p 5, and rPhl p 6.
3. (currently amended) ~~A hybrid~~ The hybrid polypeptide according to ~~claim 2~~ claims 1 or 2, wherein the plant hybrid polypeptide comprises ~~at least two~~ at least one complete allergenic proteins.
4. (currently amended) ~~A hybrid~~ The hybrid polypeptide according to claim 1, wherein the plant hybrid polypeptide comprises at least one ~~fragment~~ modification of an of the allergenic protein which ~~fragment~~ modification has a reduced allergenic activity compared with the allergenic protein from which it is derived.
5. (currently amended) ~~A hybrid~~ The hybrid polypeptide according to claim 4, wherein the plant hybrid polypeptide comprises ~~fragments~~ modifications of at least two different allergenic proteins all of which ~~fragments~~ modifications have a reduced allergenic activity compared with the respective allergenic proteins from which they are derived.
6. (currently amended) ~~A hybrid~~ The hybrid polypeptide according to claim 1 or 4, comprising at least three different plant allergenic proteins or ~~fragments~~ modifications thereof.
7. (Withdrawn) A polynucleotide encoding the hybrid polypeptide of claim 1.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Withdrawn) A cell transfected or transformed with the polynucleotide of claim 7.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (previously presented) A method for preparing a hybrid polypeptide according to claim 1, comprising:

- a) providing a polynucleotide encoding the plant hybrid polypeptide;
- b) introducing said polynucleotide into a host cell;
- c) culturing the host cell obtained in b) under conditions such that the hybrid polypeptide is expressed; and
- d) recovering the expressed plant hybrid polypeptide from the cultured host cell.

14. (previously presented) A method according to claim 13, wherein the polynucleotide encoding the plant hybrid polypeptide is obtained using PCR technology.

15. (currently amended) A method for preparing a plant hybrid polypeptide according to claim 1 or 4, wherein the plant hybrid polypeptide is prepared by chemical synthesis.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the plant hybrid polypeptide of claim 1.

21. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 20, further comprising an adjuvant.

22. (Withdrawn) A method for treating an allergic disorder comprising administering the pharmaceutical composition of claim 20 to a patient in need thereof.

23. (Withdrawn) A method for inducing tolerance to a given allergen, comprising administering the pharmaceutical composition of claim 20 to a patient in need thereof.

24. (Withdrawn) A method for providing immunity to a given allergen, comprising administering the pharmaceutical composition of claim 20 to a patient in need thereof.

25. (Withdrawn) A method for detecting antibodies against a given allergenic protein in a sample, comprising conducting *in vitro* antibody tests employing the hybrid polypeptide of any one of claims 1 to 6 or conducting *in vitro* or *in vivo* cellular-based tests employing the hybrid polypeptide of any one of claims 1 to 6.

26. (currently amended) A hybrid polypeptide comprising four different plant allergenic proteins ~~or fragment thereof, wherein each fragment consists of at least eight consecutive amino acids of the respective allergenic protein~~ selected from the group consisting of timothy grass pollen allergens rPhl p 1, rPhl p 2, rPhl p 5, and rPhl p 6 and which induces protective antibody response.

27. (new) A hybrid polypeptide comprising at least two different plant allergenic proteins characterized in that at least one of the at least two different plant allergenic proteins is a fragment thereof consisting of at least eight consecutive amino acids of the

respective allergenic protein and which fragment has a reduced allergenic activity compared with the allergenic protein from which it is derived and whereby said hybrid polypeptide induces protective antibody response.

28. (new) The hybrid polypeptide according to claim 27, wherein the plant hybrid polypeptide comprises at least one complete allergenic protein.

29. (new) The hybrid polypeptide according to claim 27, wherein the plant hybrid polypeptide comprises at least one allergenic protein selected from the group consisting of timothy grass pollen allergens rPhl p 1, rPhl p 2, rPhl p 5, and rPhl p 6.

30. (new) A method for preparing a hybrid polypeptide according to claim 27, comprising:

- a) providing a polynucleotide encoding the plant hybrid polypeptide;
- b) introducing said polynucleotide into a host cell;
- c) culturing the host cell obtained in b) under conditions such that the hybrid polypeptide is expressed; and
- d) recovering the expressed plant hybrid polypeptide from the cultured host cell.

31. (new) The method according to claim 30, wherein the polynucleotide encoding the plant hybrid polypeptide is obtained using PCR technology.

32. (new) A method for preparing a plant hybrid polypeptide according to claim 27, wherein the plant hybrid polypeptide is prepared by chemical synthesis.

33. (new) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the plant hybrid polypeptide of claim 27 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

34. (new) A method for preparing a hybrid polypeptide according to claim 4, comprising:

- a) providing a polynucleotide encoding the plant hybrid polypeptide;

- b) introducing said polynucleotide into a host cell;
- c) culturing the host cell obtained in b) under conditions such that the hybrid polypeptide is expressed; and
- d) recovering the expressed plant hybrid polypeptide from the cultured host cell.

35. (new) A method according to claim 34, wherein the polynucleotide encoding the plant hybrid polypeptide is obtained using PCR technology.